

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 3, 4 and 9.

E¹ 2. (Thrice amended) A composition (for ^{intended use} providing protective immunity against *Streptococcus equi* infection following *Streptococcus equi* challenge) comprising a live non-encapsulated attenuated *Streptococcus equi* in combination with an immunostimulant that stimulates mucosal immunity, wherein said immunostimulant is saponin.

5. (Unchanged) The composition of claim 2, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is strain 709-27 (ATCC 53186).

6. (Amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein said saponin is in the amount of from about 1 to about 10 mg/ml of said composition.

E² 7. (Amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein said saponin is in the amount of from about 3 to about 7 mg/ml of said composition.

8. (Amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein said saponin is in the amount of from about 4 to about 6 mg/ml of said composition.

10. (Unchanged) A dosage form (for ^{intended use} nasal administration) comprising the composition of claim 2.

E³ 11. (Twice amended) The dosage form of claim 10, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is strain 709-27 (ATCC 53186).

12. (Unchanged) The dosage form of claim 11, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is present in a maximum dose of about 1×10^9 .

13. (Unchanged) The dosage form of claim 11, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is present in a minimum dose of about 1.7×10^7 .

~~E4 July 35~~ 14. (Amended) The dosage form of claim 11, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is in a lyophilized form and said saponin is in a diluent. *single composition?*

am 15. (Unchanged) A method of stimulating an immune response to *Streptococcus equi* comprising contacting cells of the nasopharyngeal mucosa of an equine with a composition of claim 2.

~~E5 July 34~~ 16. (Twice amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is strain 709-27 (ATCC 53186).

17. (Unchanged) A method for preventing at least one of the symptoms associated with *Streptococcus equi* infection in equine comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim 2 nasally or by mouth to said equine.

~~E6 July 35~~ 18. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is strain 709-27 (ATCC 53186).

19. (Unchanged) The method of claim 17, wherein said attenuated *Streptococcus equi* is in the amount of from about 10^5 to about 10^{11} Colony Forming Unit (CFU).